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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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73
ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 AID-05 /089 W
---------- 101495
R 061705Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3566

UNCLAS LONDON 12133

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS
SUBJECT: NEW TERRORIST GROUP EMERGES ON NORTHERN IRELAND SCENE

1. BELFAST 255 IS REPEATED FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION:

"FOR THOSE KEEPING SCORE, A NEW TERRORIST GROUP MAY HAVE EMERGED ON THE ALREADY CROWDED NORTHERN IRELAND SCENE. RADIO NEWS BROADCASTS THIS MORNING REPORT THAT AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL TO THE STUDIOS OF RTE (REPUBLIC OF IRELAND TELEVISION) IN DUBLIN CLAIMED THAT THE NEW GROUP. LABELING ITSELF THE PEOPLE'S REOUBLICAN ARMY (PRA), WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR 33 DEATHS OVER THE LAST 6 MONTHS, 30 FROM PROTESTANT EXTREMIST GROUPS AND FROM THE ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY.

2. "PURPOSE OF PHONE CALL WAS TO ISSUE WARNING THAT IN WAKE OF KILLING OF THE MIAMI SHOWBAND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLICAN ARMY WAS PREPARING TO EXPAND ITS CAMPAIGN OF VIOLENCE TO THE WIVES AND FAMILIES BOTH OF EXTREMIST PROTESTANTS AND MEMBERS OF THE RUC.

3. "LOCAL NEWS REPORTING ON THIS PHONE CALL INDICATES THAT SOURCES BOTH WITHIN THE GARDIA AND THE RUC CLAIM TO HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE EXISTENCE OF THIS GROUP. HOW-
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EVER, RADIO ULSTER NEWS STATED THAT 'A SOURCE WITHIN THE

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RUC' HAS SUGGESTED THAT SECURITY FORCES IN NORTHERN IRE-
LAND HAVE SUSPECTED FOR SOME WHILE THAT ANOTHER TERRORIST
GROUP MIGHT BE ACTIVE ON THE LOCAL SCENE. THE RUC SOURCE,
HOWEV ER, WAS NOT PREPARED TO SAY WHETHER OR NOT THE AL-
LEGED PEOPLE'S REPUBLICAN ARMY MIGHT BE THAT GROUP."

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: PRA, IF IT ACTUALLY EXISTS, MAY BE
BREAK-AWAY PROVISIONAL IRA UNIT, AS ALLEGED BY SOME MILI-
TANT PROTESTANTS.
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